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CLASSIFICATION SECRET
 COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1
 TOPIC Soviet Troops in Plauen

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1
 DATE OF CONTENT 7 to 20 April 1952
 DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 9 May 1952
 REFERENCES
 PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)
 REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. On 20 April 1952, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Neuendorferstrasse, Plauen (M 51/K 12) was occupied to capacity. All buildings were lighted after nightfall. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered crimson epaulets. Between 12 and 20 April, individual groups of soldiers, most of them wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, were repeatedly seen marching into the installation from the Kobitzschwalde training area. A unit marching in on 14 April consisted of a total of 233 soldiers organized into 10 small groups who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and were equipped with small arms, submachine guns, light and heavy machine guns, range finders and entrenching tools. One officer and 15 men with cable reels, and field telephones marched into the installation through the northwestern gate on 19 April.

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2. Between 14 and 20 April, the Kirchbach Kaserne on Zaderastrasse was occupied by a unit of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia and motor transport insignia, black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, and blue-bordered black epaulets with air force insignia. The installation which was not occupied to capacity was guarded by sentries with red-bordered black epaulets. Four groups, each of 15 men, were engaged in rifle drill and 20 men in physical exercise on 14 April. Radio truck stood in the barracks yard near a mast, 6 to 8 meters high. The mast was braced by guy wires which went through the billeting area toward a watertower. Two stationary antennas with two masts, about 4 meters high, were by the water tower near the billeting area. There was a small house between the masts.

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3. On 7 April, 6 x 35-mm AT guns and 2 other guns practiced firing at movable tank targets at a distance of 1,000 meters. Two trucks and 1 sedan stood near the guns.

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[REDACTED] Comment. Same source reported the installation, which is partly destroyed, to have quartered 600 troops wearing red-bordered black epauletts in January 1952. Except for the radio station, the identity of the units there is undetermined.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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